原作＝丸戸史明
漫画＝武者サブ
キャラクター原案＝深崎暮人
冴えない彼女の育て方
ヒロイン
恋するメトロノーム
5
Volume FIVE
Saenai Heroine no sodate-kata
Koi-suru Metronome

冴えない彼女の育てかた

恋するメトロノーム

原作＝丸戸史明
漫画＝武者サブ
キャラクター原案＝深崎暮人

5

ハネカル

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Sazaqi Intoino-no sodate-kata
Korosuu Metronome Vol.Five

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第23話　正しいアニメのつくりかた　035
第24話　見えない本音の察しかた　065
第25話　ノらない作家の振り向かせかた（前編）　095
第26話　ノらない作家の振り向かせかた（後編）　113

STORY...

人気ラノベ作家・霞詩子こと霞ケ丘詩羽の
担当編集に任命された安芸倫也。
初担当作品である「純情ヘクトパスカル」の
アニメ化企画が始動！
ひと筋縄でいくわけもなく
早速、波瀾だらけの幕開けで――

CHARACTER

Based on story by Fumiaki Maruto
Character Design by Kurehito Misaki
Comic by Mayosaku

CHAPTER 22: HOW TO KEEP THE DREAM ALIVE WITHOUT GIVING IT AWAY

SWEET-SHOP BLACK HONEY

IT'S ALREADY DECIDED THAT THEY'LL MAKE A THIRD PRINT RUN THIS WEEK!

SWEET-SHOP BLACK HONEY

NOW THE SECOND VOLUME'S BEEN A GREAT HIT!

OH REALLY?

MUNCH

THERE'S NO WAY SUCH A THING CAN HAPPEN THIS TIME!

IT'LL SURELY TRANSCEND 'K-MET'!

"CAN YOU PLEASE END THE SERIES IN THREE VOLUMES?"

I WAS EXPECTING TO HEAR

WELL, IT'S OKAY TOO IF YOU RUSH IT DAYS BEFORE THE RELEASE!

.....

STARE

SO WE WANT YOU NOT TO WORRY AND TO START WORKING ON VOLUME 3.

WH-WHAT'S WRONG?

ISN'T THERE SOMETHING ELSE YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT, MORALS-KUN?

N-NO,

THERE'S NOTHING ELSE...

...YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE

"THERE'S NOTHING ELSE..."

fidget

fidget

EXCITED

TREMBLE

TO ME.

fidget

HUH? REALLY?

NO WAY~

DISGUSTED

ANIMATED?

WHAT?

...YEAH, THIS MUST BE TOP SECRET.

I-I'M SORRY.

SHH! DON'T BE SO LOUD!

SLAP

THEN WHY?

LOOK AROUND

NO, PEOPLE IN THE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT ALREADY KNOW ABOUT IT.

SO WE'D BETTER REFRAIN FROM SHOWING ANY SUPERIORITY

LET ALONE MADE IT TO ANIME,

THERE ARE EDITORS HERE WHOSE PROJECTS HAVEN'T SURVIVED THEIR THIRD VOLUME...

MACHIDA-SAN, THE WAY YOU ACT IS ACTUALLY TERRIBLY DISMISSIVE!

CHUCKLE

.....

UHEHEHE

I BET YOU'RE WORKING HARD TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO PUSH UNDESIRABLE JOBS ON ME AS USUAL.

...SO WHAT IS IT TODAY?

N-NO, NEVER MIND ME.

.....
MORALS-KUN, YOU'RE MORE CREEPY THAN USUAL.

Fuhihi

Kukuku

THEN WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

SPILL IT ALREADY.

N-NO, THERE'S NO JOB REQUEST AT THIS MOMENT...

W-WELL, LOOK...

I'M NOT ALLOWED TO SAY FOR NOW!

DEPENDING ON THE JOB, I WOULDN'T MIND...

BULLYING YOU UNTIL YOU'RE SATISFIED.

A SPIN-OFF SHORT STORY FOR THE UNDEAD MAG?

500 SIGNED COPIES?

STILL, KEEP IT SECRET FROM THE AUTHOR AND THE ILLUSTRATOR FOR NOW.

To Urabe-senpai
Sagara-san
From Aki
Anime confirmed!
Congrats!

MOST IMPORTANTLY, AN ANIME PROJECT IS SO DELICATE,

I WAS ABOUT TO SEND THEM CONGRATULATION MESSAGES!

WHAT?! I CAN'T TELL THEM!?

I knew it...

FOR EXAMPLE, A FUSHIKAWA LIGHT NOVEL NAMED XXXX HAD AN ANIME ANNOUNCEMENT THREE YEARS AGO, THERE HASN'T EEN ANY FO-OW-UP YET...

PLEASE DON'T REVEAL THE REAL NAME SO BLUNTLY!

SO IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT IT CAN BE CANCE-LED ANY SECOND.

>Publisher
>Production Studio
>Script
>Producer
>Director
>Opening
>Ending
>Seiyuus
>Animators
>CGs
>Editing
>Music Studio
etc...

A LOT OF COMPANIES AND STAFF ARE INVOLVED, UNLIKE IN WRITING A NOVEL.

I see a lot of names from the credit roll.

WELL, YOU SEE,

IF TALKS ARE THWARTED,

Yeah, I saw it coming from the beginning.

IT'LL AFFECT THE AUTHOR'S MOTIVATION. GOT IT?

Like I care because I had very little expectation anyway.

OKAY...

SO KEEP QUIET...

SHH!

UNTIL THE ANIME DIVISION APPROVES IT.

.....

YOU'LL BE THE FIRST TO HEAR FROM ME.

BUT WHEN THE DAY COMES,

THE DAY...?

ドキ BA-DUMP

I'LL MAKE SURE TO CONFESS IT (THE CONFIRMED ANIME PROJECT) TO YOU...

C-
CONFESS?!
UTAHA-SENPAI.
BA-DUMP
PLEASE ACCEPT THIS.

SO, UTAHA -SENPAI,

PLEASE DON'T ASK, AND JUST WAIT FOR NOW.

W-

CREAK

WAIT...

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN...

WAITING FOR THIS MOMENT.

BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
NO NEED TO BE SO NERVOUS...
ara ara...
WE'RE HERE TO JUST SAY HI.
S-
STILL...
MORE IMPORTANTLY,
I'LL DEAL WITH...
THE ANIME PROJECT STAFF IN PERSON

(Working title)
hPa Production Committee

WELL,

THAT BUILDING HOUSES NOT ONLY THE ANIME DIVISION BUT ALSO THE THE FILM, DRAMA AND LITERATURE ONES.

I HAVEN'T BEEN TO THIS HEADQUARTERS BUILDING YET.

YOU MADE ME NERVOUS AGAIN...

MUCH LARGER THAN OUR WORKPLACE.

It's still huge~

MACHIDA -SAN, YOU WANT ME TO BE NERVOUS, DON'T YOU?

Let's go.

NOT TO MENTION HE'S THE BIGGEST VILLAIN I KNOW IN FUSHIKAWA.

IT'S OKAY.

THE DIVISION HEAD IS QUITE REASONABLE TO TALK WITH.

YOU'RE FINALLY HERE.

'SUP.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME. HOW HAVE YOU BEEN... EDITOR-IN-CHIEF?

SO THIS IS THE EX-EDITORIAL CHIEF OF FANTASTIC BOOKS!?

YAMASHINA KEITA
DIVISION HEAD,
ANIME DIVISION,
FUSHIKAWA PUBLISHER

A LITTLE OVER A YEAR HAS PASSED SINCE THAT PROMISE...

ISN'T IT TOO EARLY?

I guess the next time we meet is at a meeting for the anime project for Kasumi Utako's work.

DON'T EVER THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY LIKE THAT.

"HUH? DID I MAKE SUCH A PROMISE?"

I HAVE TO HURRY UP BECAUSE IT'S YOU.

MACHIDA-SAN IS AMAZING. SHE'S TAKING ON THE ANIME DIVISION'S HEAD AS AN EQUAL.

hoho

I'D CHANGE MY ATTITUDE TOWARD A BOSS I RESPECTED~

hohoho

YOU STILL TREAT YOUR BOSS LIKE AN INCOMPETENT STATUE.

AHAHA, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED THIS WHOLE YEAR...

AS EXPECTED FROM SOMEONE WHO'S RISEN TO MANAGEMENT IN FUSHIKAWA, OF ALL COMPANIES.

ON THE OTHER HAND, HE'S OPEN-MINDED ENOUGH

TO WAVE ASIDE MACHIDA-SAN'S WILD WORDS. HE'S GOT QUITE AN AURA.

NO, I SHOULD SAY YOU'VE CHANGED A LITTLE.

YOU'RE NOW MORE OR LESS WORTHY OF THE POSITION OF VICE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

LEAVING YOUR UTAKO-SENSEI TO ONE OF YOUR SUBORDINATES...

SO...

NOW NOW, THE DECISION WAS SO UNEXPECTED, I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE.

LOOK WHO'S TALKING

WHEN HE LEFT ME SO MANY BURDENS TAKING HIS LEAVE.

SFX: TAP

OKAY, HOW ENERGETIC OF YOU.

バミ

バミ

A-AKI TOMOYA HERE, SIR!

ARE YOU HER SUCCESSOR AS UTAKO'S EDITOR?

HE'S JUST A PART-TIMER WHO'S HARD TO CONTROL.

DON'T GIVE HIM FUNNY IDEAS, DIVISION HEAD.

YOU CORNERED ME INTO THIS JOB, AND NOW YOU'RE BASHING ME!

BE CAREFUL...

PEOPLE HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF YOU.

WH-

WHAT?!

TREMBLE

WITH THESE PEOPLE,

WE CAN DO IT!

OH, SHE'S HERE?
SFX: SURPRISED
KNOCK
MANAGER YAMASHINA, THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I WAS TOLD.
WELL THEN,
LET ME INTRODUCE THIS PROJECT'S PROD-
SFX: NUDGE / STAND AT ATTENTION!

CHITOSE ...!?

I DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING ABOUT...

BEING IN CHARGE OF THIS PROJECT.

TAKESHITA CHITOSE
PRODUCER, ANIME DIVISION, FUSHIKAWA PUBLISHER

HE JUST CASUALLY GOT AWAY WITH THAT!

HUH? DIDN'T I MENTION IT-?

THAT TAKESHITA SHOULDN'T BE PART OF IT!?

RATHER, DIDN'T I MAKE AN OFFICIAL REQUEST!

HOW CAN I EVER WORK WITH SOMEONE WHO SACRIFICES THE ORIGINAL NOVEL FOR THE SAKE OF SALES, LIKE YOU?!

ALL I KNOW ABOUT YOU IS THAT YOU'VE KEPT SINKING WITH UNPOPULAR LIGHT NOVELS ONE AFTER ANOTHER.

ARA?

CRAP...

SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU BEEN PROMOTED HIGH ENOUGH TO NAME YOUR OWN PRODUCER?

SFX: WHISPER

H-hey, what's going on?

SFX: GRRRRR...

TL NOTE: SOOU UNIVERSITY IS A PARODY OF KEIO UNIVERSITY. KASUMIGAOKA UTAHA GOES THERE AFTER GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL.

FUSHIKAWA PUBLISHER

IT'S FAMOUS FOR THEM TO BE LIKE CATS AND DOGS.

WELL, THOSE TWO WOMEN WERE IN THE SAME MANGA-DRAWING CLUB IN COLLEGE, AND JOINED THIS COMPANY AT THE SAME TIME.

CHITOSE (18)

SONOKO (18)

AKANE (18)

SOOU UNIVERSITY

SO YOU REALLY ARE A VILLAIN!

WHICH PIQUED MY INTEREST IN WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I ACTUALLY TEAMED THEM UP.

THAT'S BECAUSE THE ORIGINAL AUTHOR INTERFERED IN A HALF-ASSED WAY.
I KNOW A BUNCH OF ANIME THAT WENT ASTRAY BECAUSE SHE WAS INVOLVED!
AN INCOMPETENT EDITOR, WHO CAN'T CEASE HER IRRATIONAL WHINING,
AND JUST COMPLAINS OVER THE RESULT, WOULD NEVER UNDERSTAND...
I CANNOT LET UTAKO'S "PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL" BE ADDED TO THE LIST!

IS IT JUST IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU, MACHIDA-KUN?

ANIMATING *"PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL"* IS MY DREAM...

WHICH I WANT TO REALISE AT ANY COST.

HM- HOW TROUBLING...

BUT WITH HER...

THEN YOU SHOULD BE THE MIDDLE-MAN.

SFX: TAP

THE ANIME PROJECT, WHICH WAS JUST PROPOSED, IS ABOUT TO SINK RIGHT HERE...

I SEE...

RIGHT.

AS LONG AS I CAN SPEAK TO THE EDITOR IN CHARGE, THERE WON'T BE A PROBLEM.

...

YES?

HEY WAIT!

WE'D BETTER NOT BOTHER A NUISANCE LIKE THE VICE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

WE'LL JUST LET HER KILL TIME WITH TEA BY THE WINDOW.

LIKE I SAID, CAN'T WE REPLACE THE PRODUCER?!

SHE'S GOT A LONG CAREER. A SAFE BET.

YOU SHOULDN'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY IF THE ANIME PROJECT IS YOUR DREAM.

BUT...

HELLO?

SNEEZE!

UTAHA -SENPAI,

I'M IN TROUBLE.

AM I CATCHING A COLD...?

WIPE

NOW IT'S DECIDED.

AKI TOMOYA

APPOINTED PRODUCER (ON THE SIDE OF THE SOURCE MATERIAL) FOR THE TV ANIME "PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL"

SFX: FLASH OF INSPIRATION

THIRTY MINUTES UNTIL THE "VOLUME 3" MEETING.

SNEAK...

CHAPTER 23: HOW TO MAKE AN ANIME IN THE RIGHT WAY

AKI-KUN, I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED THE OTHER DAY!

OH, MACHIDA -SAN.

... HEY.

I'VE FAILED AS VICE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF,

NO, AS AN EDITOR.

AN EDITOR IS SUPPOSED TO PROTECT AN AUTHOR'S INTERESTS,

BUT I TRIED TO DROP THE ANIME PROJECT.

HEY, IS THE TAKESHITA WOMAN...

SUCH A PROBLEMATIC PRODUCER?

SUCH AS "SUZUMIYA HARUHI", AND "TRUE TEARS".

AND IT SEEMS SHE'S WORKED ON MANY HITS,

I GOOGLED HER,

ALL HER WORKS ARE BEST-SELLERS!

KOUSAKA AKANE'S WORK.

AND

SHE'S BEEN INVOLVED IN ALL OF NONE OTHER THAN...

THE QUEEN OF MEDIA MIX

TAKESHITA CHITOSE'S ANIME HITS FALL INTO TWO CATEGORIES...

SOMETIMES PHYSICALLY, SOMETIMES MENTALLY!

ANYWAY, SHE'S KNOWN TO PUT OUTRAGEOUS BURDENS ON ORIGINAL AUTHORS.

WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!

It's different, but it's awesome (lol)

AND ONES PURSUING AN ORIGINAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ANIME,

Just your two cents.

IGNORING THE ORIGINAL STORY.

I love this.

What a new development, breaking off from the original work.

Even though this is based on a chick flick, it's now about school battles!

WOW~ TOTAL OPPOSITES.

The anime staff love this!

ONES STICKING TO THE ORIGINAL STORY UNDER THE DIRECT GUIDANCE OF THE AUTHOR,

APPEALING TO THE ORIGINAL FANS.

So much respect for the original work (lol)

It's fantastic how they've recreated the original work on the screen.

How cute, as I imagined.

TEXT: THIS SEASON'S ANIME THREAD

NOOOOO! PLEASE STOP!

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THE REST!

There's no way out.

EITHER WAY, THE AUTHORS STOPPED WRITING

ONCE THE ANIME ENDED...

A-ARE THERE EVEN MORE TRAGIC CASES?!

It's a behind-the-scenes secret that consumers wouldn't know.

AT LEAST BECAUSE THEIR ANIME ADAPTATIONS ARE FINANCIAL SUCCESSES.

BUT THEY'RE LUCKY

No need to bother watching it then.

EITHER DEGRADED MARIONETTE SHOWS THAT COPY-PASTE THE ORIGINAL WORKS,

OR GARBAGE THAT DISAPPOINTS BOTH THE EXISTING FANDOM AND ANIME VIEWERS.

THERE'S NO MIDDLE GROUND.

Noooo!

The original story's ruined!

WH-WHY DID IT COME TO THAT?!

I remember some of those...

THAT'S BECAUSE...

SNEAK UP

THOSE THAT HAVE FAILED UNDER CHITOSE'S WATCH ARE MISERABLE...

SFX: GHOST

ガ

ク...

we don't have enough budget~

IT'S A GHOST!!

GYAAAAAH!

WHOA!

SFX: BA-DUMP

Haa—

Haa

NO MORE OF THE ANIME INDUSTRY KAIDAN-KAI.

I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.

WH-WHY ARE YOU HERE, YOU AGENT OF MUSPEL-HEIM?!

AN EVIL WOMAN DESTINED FOR CRAPPY ANIME!

CRUSHER OF ORIGINAL WORKS AND DESTROYER OF AUTHORS!

RELAX, I'M NOT HERE FOR YOU.

PR NOTE: KAIDANKAI IS A GAME WHERE CANDLES ARE SNUFFED OUT ONE BY ONE AS GHOST STORIES ARE TOLD.

I HAVE BUSINESS ONLY WITH...

SFX: PEEK

PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE ANIME PROJECT.

YES?

Coffee
tap
DOES WHAT SHE SAID BOTHER YOU?
ERM,
WELL,
CRUSHER OF ORIGINAL WORKS AND DESTROYER OF AUTHORS!
NO...
WELL, SHE WAS HALF RIGHT.
sip
RISE
WHAT?!

PLEASE DON'T BRING UP SPECIFIC TITLES. I BEG YOU...

CERTAINLY, THERE HAVE BEEN MANY FAILURES AMONG MY PROJECTS.

IT DOESN'T HELP TO LIE, SO I'LL JUST TELL YOU THE REALITY.

NOT ONE OF THEM.

TAKESHITA -SAN...

BUT I DIDN'T MEAN FOR THEM TO FAIL IN THE BEGINNING.

I'VE CONSIDERED EVERY MEANS AVAILABLE TO MAKE ANY WORK SUCCESSFUL,

AND DONE MY BEST TO REALISE IT.

Fuu

YEAH. I'LL DO IT EVEN IF...

MAYBE SHE'S MORE PASSIONATE ABOUT HER JOB THAN I IMAGINED...

A PROJECT IS UNINTERESTING, WORTHLESS AND CRAPPY.

IF YOU HADN'T SAID THE LAST PART,

I BET YOU COULD'VE GOTTEN ALONG BETTER WITH THE AUTHORS!

SHAKE
SHAKE
HEY MACHIDA-SAN, DON'T DIE AFTER YOU CALLED US HERE! GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF!
DIDN'T WE PROMISE TO HAVE A MEETING ABOUT VOLUME THREE TODAY?!

WHAT'S WITH THIS SCARY ATMOSPHERE...?

IT'S ALL OVER. LEAVE ME ALONE~
I'M AN INCOMPETENT EDITOR WHO CAN'T PROTECT HER CLIENTS SATISFACTORILY~
AFTER ALL, I'M NOT PART OF THE PROJECT~
TEARY

...WHAT THE HECK HAPPENED HERE?

WELL, WHO KNOWS?

SO, PRODUCER AKI...

Coffee

HOW DO YOU DEFINE...
A "SUCCESSFUL ANIME"?

WHEN MERCHANDISE RELATED TO IT STARTS COMING?
WHEN THE ANIME BDS SELL WELL?
OR WHEN IT HAS A GOOD REPUTATION?

WHEN IT PROMOTES THE ORIGINAL WORK, AN-
Hm
IT'S SUCCESSFUL, WELL...
WHEN THE ORIGINAL WORK SELLS MORE?

WHICH STAKEHOLDER DO WE PRIORITISE?

THE AUTHOR?

THE DIRECTOR?

THE ANIME STUDIO?

THE CORE FANBASE?

NEW FANS?

OR THE PRODUCTION COMMITTEE?

THE ANSWER IS...

ALL OF THEM.

WHAT...

THE AUDIENCE WATCHING THE SHOW, READERS WHO READ BOOKS, AND CONSUMERS WHO BUY GOODS...

SHOULD ALL BE SATISFIED.

EVERYTHING, FROM THE ORIGINAL WORK TO ANIME TO RELATED GOODS,

HAS TO SELL. THERE SHOULD BE PRAISE.

INVESTORS MUST MAKE A PROFIT.

EVERY PARTY HAS TO BE HAPPY LIKE THAT, OR AN ANIME ADAPTATION IS MEANINGLESS.

AND THERE'LL BE NO FUTURE FOR THE ANIME INDUSTRY.

SO I OFTEN RETREAT AT THE RISK OF FAILURE.

I'M PREPARED TO LOSE MONEY WHEN THINGS GO WRONG,

IN THAT CASE, I DO MY BEST TO MINIMISE THE LOSS FOR EVERY COMPANY INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION COMMITTEE.

BUT I WON'T SPEND A PENNY WHEN I DON'T SEE ANY CHANCE OF WINNING.

I NEVER BUILD A SYSTEM WHERE ONE PARTY TAKES THE WHOLE HIT.

STILL, NO MATTER WHAT CRITICISM I TAKE,

THEN, I BECOME THE PERSON THE ORIGINAL WORK'S AUTHOR HATES THE MOST.

SOMETIMES, THEY CUT DOWN THE ANIME BUDGET BECAUSE OF THAT.

WHAT SHOULD AN AUTHOR DO...

WHEN THEY'RE DISCARDED LIKE THAT?

NO...

DO THEIR BEST, OR LEAVE IT TO FATE.

OR LEAVE EVERYTHING TO THE ANIME INDUSTRY'S PROS, AND PRAY FOR THE BEST.

PUSH WITH ALL THEIR MIGHT TO MAKE A FINANCIAL SUCCESS OUT OF THE ANIME,

OBJECT TO ANY DEVIATION FROM THEIR OWN STORY, AND DISRUPT THE PRODUCTION.

WHO JUST KEEP TALKING ABOUT WHAT THEY WANT IN AN ABSTRACT WAY,

I WON'T EVER FORGIVE THOSE

SFX: GRIP

EXCUSE ME, BUT COULD YOU PLEASE REFRAIN FROM SAYING UNWOMANLY THINGS!?

IF THEY CAN'T, THEY SHOULDN'T HAVE SHAT IN THE FIRST PLACE!

PEOPLE MUST WIPE THEIR ASS AFTER THEY SHIT.

ARE YOU GOING TO JUST BE SATISFIED WITH GETTING AN ANIME?

ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE PART IN THE PROJECT AND GIVE IT YOUR ALL?

PICK ONE OUT OF THESE THREE.

OR...

SHOW

ANYWAY,

I'D LIKE TO KNOW HOW MUCH PASSION AND VISION YOU, AS THE REPRESENT-ATIVE FOR THE ORIGINAL WORK, HAVE.

DROP THE WHOLE THING.

WHICH ONE DO YOU PICK?

PRODUCER AKI.

I...

IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO MAKE SUCH AN IMPORTANT DECISION...?

I DEFINITELY WANT THE ANIME TO BE SUCCESSFUL.

TO LEARN WHAT I'M FACING!

I DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE ILLUSTRATION JOB...

BE AN EDITOR WHO CAN OFFER A SOLUTION THAT WRITERS WANT.

IS A NOVICE LIKE YOU TRYING TO SOLVE THE WRITER'S PROBLEM?

COME ON~

BRUSH

SAYUKA!

DON'T TELL ME YOU AREN'T CONFIDENT OF THE WORK YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF.

ANGE!

POP!

REMEMBER WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO THIS DAY!

LOOK! SHE'S... SO CUTE!

MOST READERS CHECKED THE WRITER'S NAME BEFORE THEY BOUGHT THE BOOKS.

THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO HIT ON THE ILLUSTRATIONS AND PICK UP THE BOOKS!

WHAT IS IT...

THAT YOU'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED IN?

I...

MY DREAM IS...
TO MAKE KASUMI UTAKO'S NAME RISE TO DIS-TINCTION THROUGHOUT THE LAND!

I WON'T ACCEPT ANYTHING LESS THAN HAVING CHARACTERS DESIGNED BY SAGANO FUMIO AND ANIMATED!

SO,

I WON'T ACCEPT ANYTHING LESS THAN TOTAL FAITHFULNESS TO KASUMI UTAKO'S NOVEL!

I WANT NOTHING ELSE...

BUT KASUMI UTAKO'S VERSION!

IN THAT CASE,
TOUCH
GET THE AUTHOR FULLY INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT.
INDUCE THE ILLUSTRATOR TO WORK ON EVERY CHARACTER DESIGN.
SMILE
.....
SELL YOUR SOUL TO ME.

YOU... LEFT ME BEHIND,

AND ARE HANGING OUT WITH AN OLDER WOMAN LIKE HER!

SFX: STUCK

WELL, WHAT-EVER~

AH~

tremble

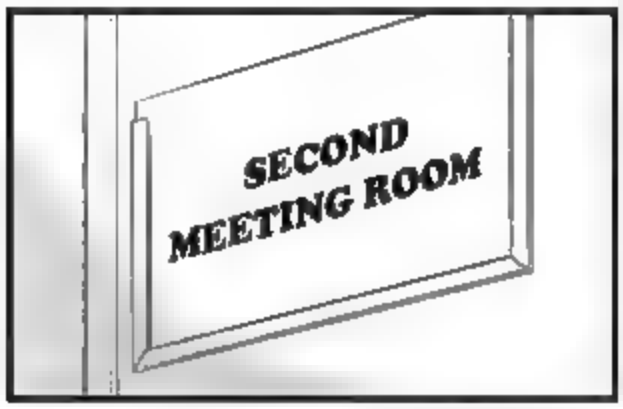
tremble

SCRATCH

SCRATCH

SCRATCH

THE LIMITS OF SUPER DEFORMED CHARACTER DESIGN
Can you come a little closer?
I don't think it's necessary...
TREMBLE
TREMBLE


SECOND
MEETING ROOM

SFX: THROB

ヒリ
WHY?!
ヒリ
ヒリ

WHY DID IT COME TO THIS?!
Tight
TOUCH

SFX: TRAMPLE

OW!

SFX: PRESS...

PROCEEDING WITH THE ANIME PROJECT ON YOUR OWN WHILE KEEPING IT SECRET FROM THE AUTHOR,

YOUR HEAD HAS GROWN QUITE BIG, PRODUCER AKI.

Haa

Haa

WIGGLE

HUH? DID I SAY THAT?

UNTIL IT'S OFFICIAL...

B-BUT MACHIDA-SAN TOLD ME TO KEEP IT SECRET FROM SAGANO-SAN AND YOU...

SFX: KICK

RIGHT, SHE'S THE ANIME PRODUCER...

YOU TRAITOR!

FUFU

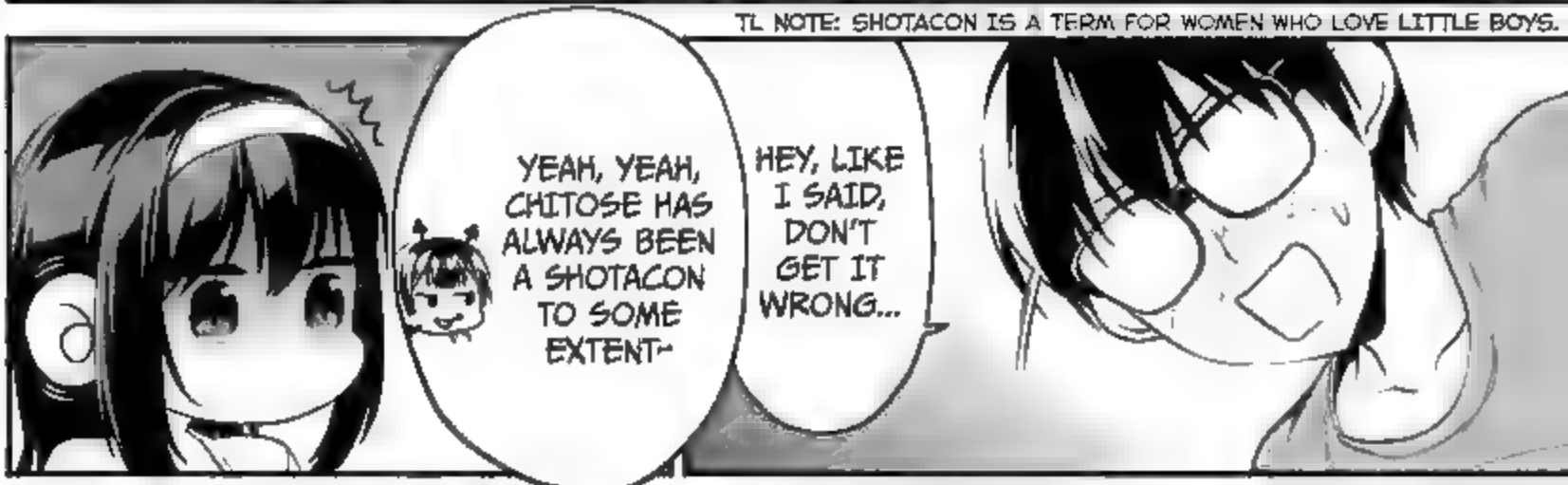
I'LL LEAVE THE DECISION TO THE PRODUCER IN CHARGE...

WELL, NOW THAT I'VE BEEN DROPPED FROM THE ANIME PROJECT,

AND, IN THE END, ABANDON HIM...

A DISGRACE TO THE INDUSTRY WHO WILL USE THE ANIME PROJECT AS BAIT, TOY WITH MORALS-KUN'S BODY AND MIND...

TL NOTE: SHOTACON IS A TERM FOR WOMEN WHO LOVE LITTLE BOYS.



SFX: PUSH DOWN

BOOK TITLE: PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL

I'M SORRY I DIDN'T TELL YOU ABOUT THAT...

DON'T YOU MEAN THAT IT'S A CHANCE FOR YOU?

BUT THIS IS A CHANCE, UTAHA -SENPAI!

AND IF NOT, IT'LL JUST BE A FAILED WORK.

IF THE ANIME IS SUCCESSFUL, IT'LL HELP YOU GAIN RECOGNITION AS AN EXPERIENCED PRODUCER,

IT WON'T HURT YOU IN ANY WAY...

DON'T TREAT ME LIKE THE WORST TRASH IN THE FIELD!

FOR "PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL" AS WELL AS KASUMI UTAKO THE WRITER!

"PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL" IS ALSO...

SAME WITH ME!

"PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL" IS A LOVELY BABY OF MINE BORNE THROUGH A HARD LABOR.

LISTEN, MORALS -KUN,

SFX: BA-DUMP!

MY PRIZED FIRST-BORN!

HEY- HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING SO MISLEADING...

TH-THAT MUST MEAN... Haa

Haa

Haa Huf

A BABY OF MORALS -KUN'S AND MINE?

Haa

A manga adaptation, Drama CDs, and an anime project... I'll push it into a torrent of media mix, and sell like crazy!

SFX: TENSE

ERM... I REMEMBER I TALKED ABOUT THE MEDIA MIX THE OTHER DAY...

ANYWAY, I'M NOT INTERESTED IN AN ANIME ADAPTATION RIGHT NOW.

IT'S MORE IMPORTANT TO MAKE A STORY (TOGETHER).

I LOVE TO TALK ABOUT MY DREAM (WITH YOU)...

SFX: GIGGLE

クスクス

SHI-CHAN, YOU REALLY CAN'T HANDLE ANY CAREER PATH BUT WRITING.

BEING A CHICKEN DESPITE BEING A YANDERE,

DON'T YOU THINK AN ANIME ADAPTATION IS ONE OF THE MILESTONES FOR A LIGHT NOVEL WRITER?

DON'T YOU BELIEVE IN MY WRITING SKILLS

THAT WON'T REQUIRE A MEDIA MIX TO SELL?

けし

けし

SFX: KICK

UTAHA -SENPAI...

THERE ARE WRITERS WHO SELL WITHOUT ANIME ADAPTATIONS, AND I WANT TO BE ONE OF THEM.

DON'T ASCRIBE SUCH A HERD MENTALITY TO EVERY LN WRITER.

IF YOU REALLY WANT AN ANIME ADAPTATION, FEEL FREE TO PURSUE IT.

BUT I MAKE IT CLEAR I WON'T BE INVOLVED.

SFX: PAUSE

EVEN IF IT TURNS OUT TO BE A FAILURE DUE TO YOUR NEGLIGENCE?

THEN ARE YOU GOING TO BE QUIET...

SFX: SCARY AURA

I'LL CURSE YOU TO DEATH.

I WON'T FORGIVE YOU UNTIL YOU DIE A HUNDRED TIMES.

DIE.

I KNEW YOU'D MIND!

WHOO OA!?

SFX: TE-TRAK

I DIDN'T EXPECT SUCH A STRONG REFUSAL...

ガタン ゴトン

ガタン ゴトン

I THOUGHT SHE'D BE HAPPY ABOUT IT.

YOU SHOULD'VE BEGUN BY INDULGING HER WHIMS.

SFX: TURN

IT'S ALL ABOUT TIMING.

EVEN THOUGH THE MEETING'S ALREADY OVER?

WHY ARE YOU STILL HERE...

TEXT: AKIHABARA

秋葉原

WHAT A STUPID QUESTION GIVEN THAT WE'RE AT AKIBA...

SFX: SPARK/

I'VE LONG PLANNED...

TO HUNT FOR NEW RELEASES TODAY!

I'M NOT GOING TO LEND YOU ANY MONEY;

TELL YOU WHAT, I'M NOT GOING TO CARRY YOUR BAGGAGE;

AND I'M NOT GOING TO HELP YOU LOOK FOR SOLD-OUT STUFF.

I'M GOING TO BUY THIS MONTH'S RELEASES!

I WAS SO BUSY WITH ILLUSTRATIONS FOR THE UNDEAD MAGAZINE,

I COULDN'T LEAVE HOME.

SFX: SHOVE

DON'T WORRY!

SFX: PLENTY!

I'VE BEEN MAKING SURE TO RESERVE NEW RELEASES SINCE THEN!

Here are my reservation tickets!

... OKAY, I'LL AT LEAST HELP YOU CARRY YOUR BAGGAGE.

SFX: RUSTLE

わっさ

わっさ

ahimate

SFX: BRIGHTEN / WARM / RUSTLE

ぱぁぁぁっ

SORRY FOR THE WAIT~

わっさ

わっさ

HEY, WHAT'S WRONG?

...

FIELD RESEARCH AGAIN?

JUST A SECOND...

.....

SIGN: LIGHT NOVEL

BUT IT'S BEEN THREE WEEKS SINCE THE RELEASE,

SO IT'S NOT EASY TO SEE SOMEONE BUYING IT...

BUT LOOK!

THEY STILL HAVE A PILE OF UNSOLD BOOKS LIKE THOSE!

SFX: HIDE

OH~ THE COVER ILLUST-RATION SURE IS CUTE.

HEY, IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A LOVE COMEDY, I DEFINITELY RECOMMEND THIS "PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL"!

IT'S SO FUN, YOU MUST READ IT!

Hm~

THE AUTHOR IS KASUMI UTAKO WHO WROTE "KOISURU MET-RONOME". THE GIRLS HERE ARE SUPER HOT!

I'LL PICK THIS ONE. THE ANIME'S QUITE INTERESTING.

OH, DOESN'T THIS HAVE AN ANIME ADAPTATION RUNNING THIS SEASON?

SFX: SHOCKED

HA A...

"PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL" IS ABSOLUTELY BETTER...

.....

DON'T MENTION THE TITLE, PLEASE! JUST DON'T!

ACTUALLY, I WONDER WHY THAT BOOK GOT AN ANIME ADAPTATION GIVEN IT TOTALLY LACKS CONTENT.

HUH?

BUT...

LIKE ME A YEAR AGO.

THERE'S A POTENTIAL AUDIENCE YOU JUST CAN'T REACH WITH WRITING ALONE.

YEAH...

YOU HAVE TO ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF THE READERS FIRST,

OR YOU CAN'T WIN THEM.

I WANT KASUMI UTAKO TO REACH THEM.

WHO WILL EVENTUALLY LOVE "PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL"...

I'M SURE THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE OUT THERE...

SO...
AS I THOUGHT, I WANT...
THE ANIME ADAP-TATION...

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

SFX: TURN

YOU TALK BIG.

.....
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?

WHY DON'T WE CHECK THE ANSWER TOGETHER?

WELL THEN,

SFX: GRRR...

SFX: HIGH FIVE!

WE'RE GETTING AN ANIME!!

YAAAY!

YOU WANT IT TOO!

SEE?

HAVING MY FIRST COMMERCIAL WORK ANIMATED, THERE AREN'T MANY CINDERELLAS LIKE THAT!

CRY...

I WANT IT!

I TOTALLY WANT IT!

IT'S AN ACCOMPLISHMENT THAT EVEN KASUMI UTAKO COULDN'T MANAGE!
YES!
I ABSOLUTELY WILL DO IT!
It's awesome~
I WANT TO BRAG ABOUT IT TO MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY!
They're moving...
I WANT TO SIT AT A PREMIERE AS PART OF THE PRODUCTION TEAM!
One minute to go.
I WANT TO SIT IN EXCITEMENT IN FRONT OF THE TV AND WAIT FOR THE FIRST EPISODE!

THEN DO YOU WANT TO JOIN THE PRODUCTION TEAM?

ARE YOU GOING TO GET INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT?

I WILL!

ARE YOU READY TO DESIGN NOT ONLY THE MAIN CHARACTERS BUT ALSO THE SUPPORTING ONES AND PROPS?

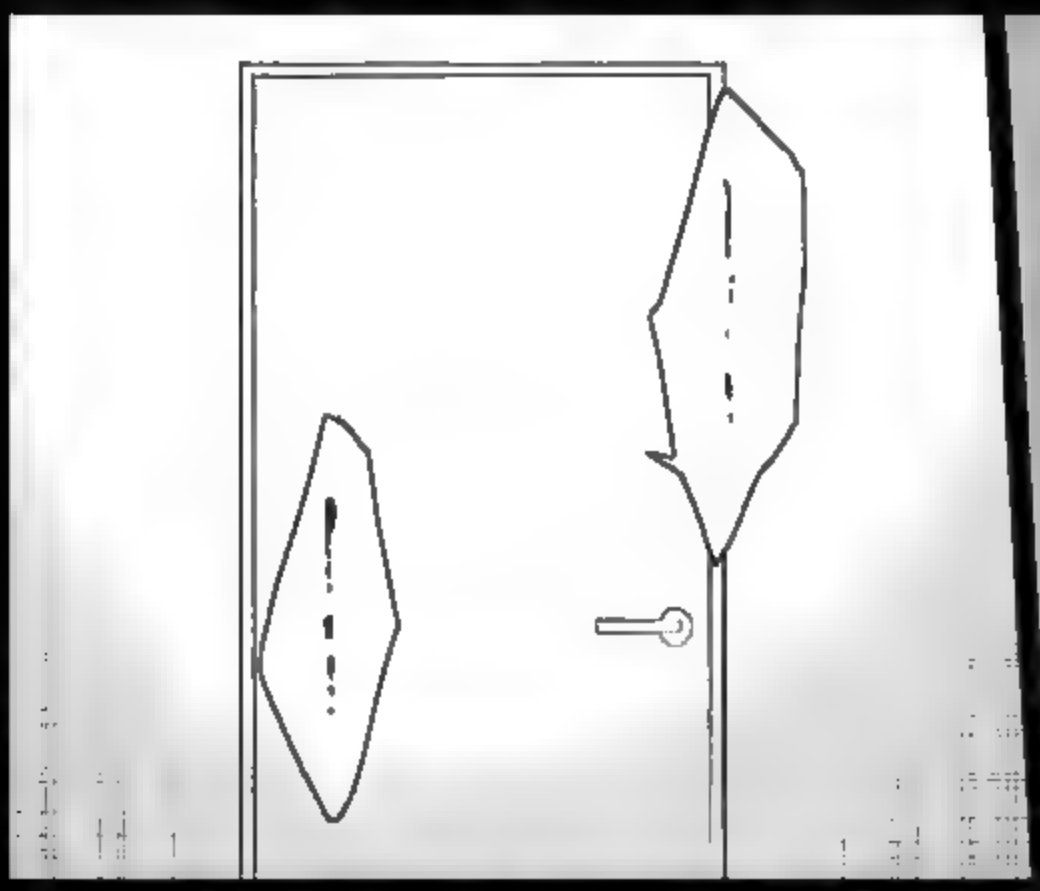
YES! I'M MORE THAN READY!

I'M EAGER TO DO ANY-THING FOR THE SAKE OF "MY ANIME"!

SFX: OFFER A HAND
TOGETHER, LET'S TAKE KASUMI UTAKO BY FORCE!
THEN LEND ME YOUR POWER!

SORRY, BUT YOU'RE THE WRONG PERSON TO SAY THAT.
Okay...
...
WELL, FOR YOUR INFORMATION, I'M NOT INTER-ESTED IN A THREES-

CHAPTER 25: HOW TO PERSUADE AN UNPERSUADABLE WRITER, PART 1



PURE LOVE HECTOPASC
ANIME ADAPTATION

KYAH!

THUD

PUSHING ME DOWN ALL OF A SUDDEN,

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

STRAIGHTEN

...MORALS -KUN?

GRIN

IT'S YOUR FAULT, UTAHA -SENPAI.....

I TRIED TO PERSUADE YOU SO MUCH,

BUT YOU DIDN'T CHANGE YOUR MIND.

CREAK...

FLINCH!

APPROACH...

EVEN SO,
TOUCH
YOU MUSTN'T TRY TO HAVE YOUR WAY BY FORCE LIKE THIS...
Push

IF I CAN'T CHANGE YOUR MIND WITH WORDS,

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I DO BUT TEACH YOU THROUGH YOUR BODY?

YOU'RE... SO MEAN...

SHOCKED!

SFX: MOVE UP...

M-MORALS -KUN!?

YOU ALWAYS DRESS SO REVEALINGLY.

HAVEN'T YOU ALWAYS WANTED THIS KIND OF THING?

Haa
Haa
Haa
AH...
PANT
SILENCE.
RAISE

N-
NO.
DON'T FORCE IT ON ME...

I-IF YOU JUST ASK ME GENTLY...
Pant
SQUEEZE
I...

THEN,

I'LL ASK YOU NICELY.

I'VE HAD IT UP TO HERE WITH YOUR INSANE DELUSIONS THAT PUT ME IN A BAD LIGHT!

It made me uneasy because it was longer than usual. What's with the sadistic character anyway?!

SPRING UP!

TURN AWAY

THAT BORING PROPOSAL I KILLED ALREADY.

BECAUSE YOU WERE TRYING TO BRING UP

I SAID IT...

PURE LOVE ha
ANIME ADAPTAT

IT'S NOT DEAD...

WE'RE NOT OVER YET, UTAHA-SENPAI!

WHY DON'T YOU SAY THAT LINE ON A STATION PLATFORM OR IN AN AIRPORT?

I MIGHT RECONSIDER IT THEN.

If you'd said that before I decided to leave town, the future might be different...

UTAHA -SENPAI!

BAM

STOP DERAILING ME, AND PLEASE LISTEN.

I BEG YOU AGAIN, KASUMI -SENSEI...

WANT TO LAUNCH THIS ANIME PROJECT NO MATTER WHAT!
I, AS THE EDITOR IN CHARGE,
.....

SFX: GRIN

Haa
Haa
PANT
EXCUSE ME...
HUH? WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE ALL OF A SUDDEN, SAGANO-SAN?
I THOUGHT TODAY'S MEETING WAS JUST BETWEEN SHI-CHAN AND AKI-KUN.
SFX: CREAK
Haa
THAT GUY?
THAT GUY...
Haa
Haa
Huf

CHAPTER 26: HOW TO PERSUADE AN UNPERSUADABLE WRITER, PART 2
IS AKI TOMOYA HERE?!
HUH?
まじかよ。
SFX: LOST

Fuu...
SO YOU WANT TO GET "PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL" ANIMATED...
NO MATTER WHAT.

IF YOU REALLY DON'T WANT IT,

I'LL STOP TALKING ABOUT IT.

...

BUT I BELIEVE THIS PROJECT WILL BENEFIT YOU OVERALL!

FOR FUSHIKAWA'S SAKE,

YOU GUYS WANT THIS...

SHARP

NOT MINE, RIGHT?

HOW COME SHE HAS SUCH A NEGATIVE IMPRESSION OF ANIME ADAPTATIONS?!

SO THAT THEY CAN KEEP THEIR RESERVED BROADCAST SLOTS.

Spring Summer Autumn

THEY JUST MAKE AN ARBITRARY LINEUP...

BUT ISN'T IT GOOD IN ITS OWN WAY?

I CAN'T DENY THIS SERVES FUSHIKAWA.

... UGH.

UTAHA -SENPAI,

PLEASE REMEMBER HOW MUCH YOU OWE THE PUBLISHER AND MACHIDA-SAN.

I THINK I'VE MORE THAN ENOUGH REPAID MY DEBT TO THEM.

SFX: PLENTY!

すどおおん

ALL THOSE NEW PRINTS IN HOPE OF A SUCCESS,

COULD END UP BEING A MOUNTAIN OF UNWANTED STOCK...

Returned

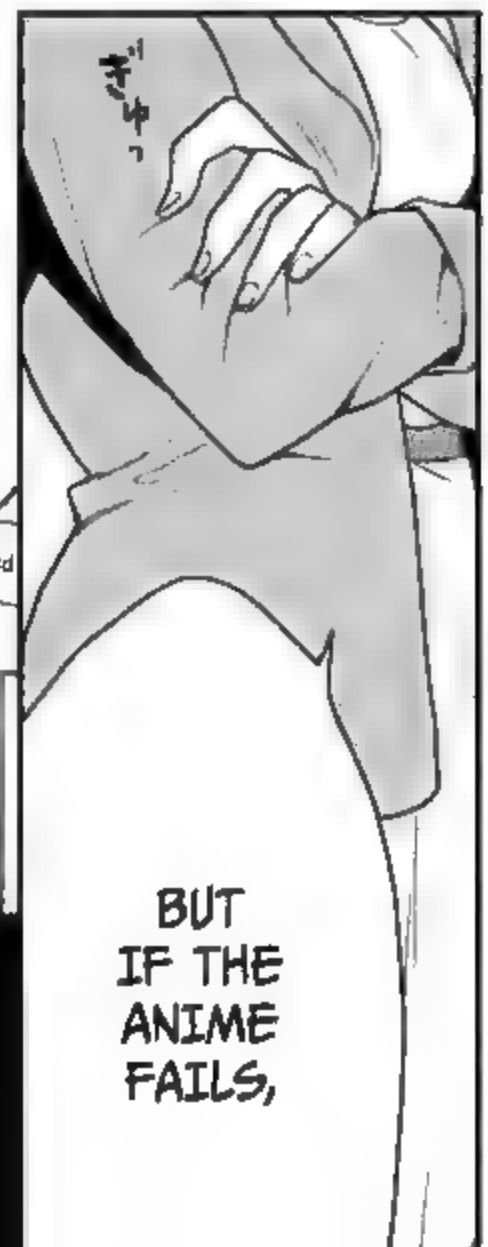
Returned

Returned

EEK!

NOOOO~

THAT'S WHY I SAID...



WE MUST GIVE IT OUR ALL TO MAKE IT SUC-CESSFUL!

IT AFFECTS NOT ONLY CONSUMERS BUT ALSO THE CREATOR...

IF THE ANIME SUCCEEDS, "PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL" WILL REACH A LARGER NUMBER OF PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT TASTES AND FROM DIFFERENT DEMOGRAPHICS...

YOU CAN WORK ON THE "PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL" ANIME WITH MANY PEOPLE,
LEARN THEIR TASTES,
GROW PERSONALLY,
AND GAIN THE RESPECT OF YOUR COUNTERPARTS,
WHICH...

WITH MORE TALENTED PEOPLE!

WILL LEAD YOU TO CREATE SOMETHING A LITTLE GREATER...

SAGANO -SAN,

MAT-SUBARA -SAN,

SO LONG AS I JUST HAVE MACHIDA -SAN,

I'M NOT REALLY INTER-ESTED IN EX-TENDING MY WORK NET-WORK...

AND YOU...

WHAT...?

ONLY BECAUSE YOU REACHED OUT FIRST.

YOU'VE GOTTEN TO KNOW US

WITHOUT HER, MATSUBARA MIZUHO -SENSEI WOULDN'T HAVE...

BEEN INVOLVED IN K-MET.

IF "KOISURU METRONOME" HADN'T BEEN PUBLISHED,

IF YOU HADN'T TRIED FOR THE FANTASTIC AWARD,

YOU WOULDN'T'VE MET MACHIDA -SAN.

UTAKO-SENSEI'S AUTOGRAPH EVENT IN CELEBRATION OF THE RELEASE OF KOISURU METRONOME VOLUME 2!
I WOULDN'T'VE HAVE MET KASUMI UTAKO.
SFX: POUND/

.....
IF I HADN'T MET KASUMI UTAKO...
CLIP
AND...

THIS IS...
SAGANO FUMIO WOULDN'T HAVE JOINED "PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL", EITHER...

THE FIRST SET OF CONCEPT ART FOR THE "PURE LOVE HECTO-PASCAL" ANIME!

THESE ARE HER ILLUST-RATIONS -

TEXT: PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL

I ALSO GOT AN OKAY FROM PRODUCER TAKESHITA...

ONCE THE ANIME ADAPT-ATION IS ANNOUNCED,

THIS ARTWORK WILL BE UNVEILED!

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU ALREADY GOT AN OKAY FROM SAGANO-SAN...

SO SHE AND I THOUGHT ABOUT...

HOW TO CONVINCE YOU.

THIS ANIME ADAPTATION IS NOT ONLY MY DREAM BUT ALSO HERS...

She drew these with such great passion.

IS IT ISOLATING ME LIKE THIS?

OKAY,

THEN WHY DON'T YOU JUST DO AS YOU PLEASE?

Pfft

SFX: WALK AWAY

NO.

YOU MIGHT GET A QUALITY ANIME DEPENDING ON THE STAFF.

GIVEN YOU HAVE SO MUCH PASSION,

WE CAN'T START IT WITHOUT YOU...

HALT

I DON'T WANT TO.

I BELIEVE THERE ARE THINGS YOU CAN TRY IN AN ANIME,

ANIME HAS TOO MANY LIMITS; I CAN'T EVEN SHOW HALF OF WHAT I'D WANT TO WRITE.

YOU'RE RIGHT THAT ANIME HAS MANY LIMITS...

BUT...

SUCH AS A DIFFERENT APPROACH FROM THE NOVEL...

BUT...
SFX: BURST OPEN!
Haa
IT'S FINALLY DONE!
PANT
SAGANO -SAN.....?

SFX: UNROLL

SFX: SHOW

THE SECOND SET OF CONCEPT ART FOR THE "PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL" ANIME!
THIS IS...
SAYUKA...?

LET'S BUILD A KASUMI UTAKO-VERSE

WITH SAYUKA AS THE LINK...

TO YOUR DEBUT WORK *"KOISURU METRONOME"* IN THE *"PURE LOVE HECTOPASCAL"* ANIME.

TL NOTE: OVA STANDS FOR "ORIGINAL VIDEO ANIME".

IT'S BECAUSE SHE'S THE ONLY CHARACTER THAT APPEARS
IN BOTH OF YOUR WORKS, SYMBOLISING KASUMI UTAKO.
Approach
Approach
HEY SAYUKA...
THIS IS A CHANCE TO MAKE YOU HAPPY.
SFX: EXPLODE!
BLUSH...
GRIN

I ALSO MANAGED TO GET AN OKAY FROM TAKE-SHITA-SAN...

A PLOT DEVICE THAT ONLY THE AUTHOR CAN MAKE WILL APPEAL TO HER FANDOM.

SO SHE SAID.

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU HAVE TO JOIN THE PROJECT, OR WE CAN'T TAKE OFF.

SMIRK

IF YOU DON'T SAY YES, THESE TWO DRAWINGS I SPENT A WEEK ON,

HAVE TO BE BEN-CHED...

GLARE

SFX: GOODBYE

ひら

ひら

I'LL LEAVE THE REST TO THE EDITOR...

AND GO HOME FOR SOME SLEEP.

SFX: CLOSE

.....

IF YOU BECOME MORE FAMOUS THANKS TO THE ANIME ADAPTATION,
YOU'LL GET TO KNOW NOT ONLY GOOD PEOPLE BUT ALSO THE WRONG SORT.

YOU MIGHT HAVE MORE BAD EXPE-RIENCES...
WITH ANTI-FANS THAN NOW.
BUT I PROMISE YOU I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT...
YOU MEAN,
AS KASUMI UTAKO'S PRODUCER?

AS YOUR EDITOR!
Smile

Nod

Grunt
I WAS THE ONE DOING ALL THE WORK~
Hide

For whose sake...? I-isn't obvious I did it for the anime's sake!?
Why didn't I send the picture instead of running all the way to the editorial department!?